

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) In the fabrication of semiconductor integrated circuits, a A
method for controlling generating a dummy dispense of liquid signal, comprising:

- (a) recording a time at which a substrate is processed;
- (b) recording a time at which a liquid volatile solution is dispensed;
- (c) comparing the time at which the substrate is processed and the time at which the liquid is dispensed ~~to determine whether a dummy dispense is required~~; and
- (d) generating a dummy dispense signal when ~~the dummy dispense is required~~,
wherein the volatile solution is photoresist.

2-3 (cancelled).

4. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the time at which the substrate is processed comprises a move-in time of the substrate.

5. (currently amended) The method of claim 4, wherein the time at which the liquid volatile solution is dispensed comprises a last time at which the liquid volatile solution is dispensed.

6. (currently amended) The method of claim 5, wherein the step (c) comprises generating a time difference between the move-in time of the substrate and the last time at which the liquid volatile solution is dispensed.

7. (currently amended) The method of claim 6 further comprising performing a dummy dispense when the time difference is larger than, or equal to, a period of time that is long enough to substantially make a solvent of the liquid volatile solution evaporate.

8. (currently amended) The method of claim 7 further comprising dispensing the liquid volatile solution on the substrate.

9. (currently amended) The method of claim 8 further comprising recording an updated time at which the liquid volatile solution is dispensed.

10. (currently amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising recording a recipe for dispensing the liquid volatile solution and the name of the liquid volatile solution.

11. (currently amended) The method of claim 10 further comprising determining whether the name of the liquid volatile solution responds to the recipe.

12-28 (cancelled)